GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2368
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
ASSISTANCE FOR LOCAL DAMS AND BIG CANALS
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provides assistance to the States for the development of local dams and big canals;

(b) if so, the details of proposals received from each State during the last three years, till-date;

(c) the decision taken on the proposals received and allocation made in each case of the approved proposals; and

(d) the decision taken on the Nandan Canal Scheme received from Tamil Nadu?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) to (c) Irrigation is a State subject and the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities. The Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) for such approved irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of construction and beyond the resources capability of the States that can be completed in the next four financial years as per the guidelines of the Programme. An amount of Rs. 9057.541 crore has been released to the State Governments as CLA/grant during the last three years.

In addition, a pilot scheme, namely, "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Directly Linked to Agriculture", has been approved by the Government of India in 2005 at an estimated cost of Rs.300 crore for renovation of water bodies like tanks, ponds and small dams having culturable command area below 2000 hectare. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs. 82.88 crore has been released as Central share of grants during 2004-05 and 2005-06 (till date).

(d) No Proposal has been received from the Government of Tamil Nadu for availing Central assistance under AIBP for the Nandan Canal Scheme.